

Sign Code

Randolph County Area Plan Commission

A. Sign Standards.

1. General.

- a. Repealer. This ordinance replaces the following sections of the current Zoning Ordinance that are in place on this date of passage:
 - i. Section 3.11 Signs in the Agricultural Limited District
 - ii. Section 3.I-11 Signs in the Agricultural Districts
 - iii. Section 4.11 Signs in the Residential Districts
 - iv. Section 5.13 Signs in the Commercial Districts
 - v. Section 6.13 Signs in the Industrial Districts
 - vi. Section 6.14 Additional Requirements and Standards
 - vii. Section 16.7.5 Signage for WECS
 - viii. The following terms within the Definitions section are deleted:
 - (a) Animated Sign
 - (b) Banner
 - (c) Beacon
 - (d) Billboard
 - (e) Building Marker
 - (f) Internal Lighting
 - (g) Sign
 - (h) Sign, Advertising
 - (i) Sign, Animated
 - (j) Sign, Announcement
 - (k) Sign Area
 - (l) Sign, Building
 - (m) Sign, Business Hours
 - (n) Sign, Canopy
 - (o) Sign, Changeable Copy
 - (p) Sign, Commercial or Industrial
 - (q) Sign, Deceptive
 - (r) Sign, Display Surface

- (s) Sign, Electric
- (t) Sign, Electronic Message
- (u) Sign, Event Oriented
- (v) Sign, Flashing
- (w) Sign, Freestanding
- (x) Sign, Garage Sale, Yard Sale, and Auction
- (y) Sign, Gateway
- (z) Sign, Hanging
- (aa) Sign, Historic
- (bb) Sign, Historic Place
- (cc) Sign, Movable
- (dd) Sign, Neon
- (ee) Sign, Non-conforming
- (ff) Sign, Obsolete
- (gg) Sign, Official
- (hh) Sign, Off-premise
- (ii) Sign, Off-premise Advertising
- (jj) Sign, Obsolete Advertising
- (kk) Sign, On-premise
- (ll) Sign, "open" and "closed"
- (mm) Sign, Outdoor Advertising
- (nn) Sign, Parking
- (oo) Sign, Permanent
- (pp) Sign, Political Election
- (qq) Sign, Portable
- (rr) Sign, Prohibited
- (ss) Sign, Public
- (tt) Sign, Real Estate
- (uu) Sign, Roof
- (vv) Sign, Temporary
- (ww) Sign, Time and Temperature
- (xx) Sign, Two-sided
- (yy) Sign, Wall
- (zz) Sign, Window

- b. Application. These sign standards apply to uses that are permitted in each respective zoning district by right, special exception, or use variance.
- c. Intent of these Regulations. The intent of these sign standards is to:
 - i. accomplish the goals of the *Comprehensive Plan*;
 - ii. regulate time, place, and characteristics of signs;
 - iii. avoid the proliferation of signs;
 - iv. provide businesses with appropriate identification;
 - v. create a consistent streetscape;
 - vi. maintain and enhance the aesthetic environment of the jurisdiction;
 - vii. eliminate potential hazards to motorists and pedestrians resulting from sign clutter; and
 - viii. promote the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the jurisdiction.
- d. Sign Types. The different types of signs addressed in this ordinance are defined in *Section 7: Definitions*.
 - i. Permitted Signs. The types of signs specifically permitted in each in each zoning district and their respective regulations are listed in this chapter.
 - ii. Prohibited Signs. Unless specifically permitted, all other types of signs are prohibited in each zoning district. In addition, the following types of signs are prohibited in all districts:
 - (a) Animated Signs: Signs that gain attention through animation, including:
 - (1) Signs that utilize any motion picture, laser, or visual projection of images or copy.
 - (2) Signs that emit audible sound, odor or visible matter.
 - (3) Signs that have blinking, flashing, or fluttering lights or which has a changing light intensity, brightness or color, or give such illusion.
 - (b) Misleading Signs: Signs that are misleading include:
 - (1) Signs that purport to be or are in imitation of, or resemble an official traffic sign or signal or which bear the words "Stop", "Slow", "Caution", "Danger", "Warning", or similar words.
 - (2) Signs that may be construed as or have on it a light of an emergency or road equipment vehicle.
 - (c) Roof Signs: Signs to be placed on the roofs of structures and signs that extend above the roof line or parapet of a building.
 - (d) Vehicle Signs: Vehicle signs are prohibited when the vehicle is parked on public or private property for the primary purpose of displaying the sign. Prohibited vehicle signs are not to be construed as vehicles with signs on them that:
 - (1) are lawfully parked overnight or during nonbusiness hours for that operation, on public or private property;

- (2) are making deliveries, sales calls, or customary practices relating to doing business;
 - (3) are making trips to transport persons or property; or
 - (4) are in conjunction with customary construction operations on a construction site.
- (e) Other Prohibited Signs:
- (1) Trailblazer or point of destination signs;
 - (2) Search lights;
 - (3) Pennants, streamers, and/or spinners;
 - (4) Bench signs; (Plaques up to 2 square feet area identifying donors may be attached.
 - (5) Signs with moving or movable parts; and
 - (6) Obscene signs that contain profane language, male genitalia, and/or female genitalia.

iii. Devices Exempt from These Regulations. The following devices are not considered to be signs, do not require an ILP, are specifically exempt from these regulations, and their respective limitations include:

(a) Building Addresses.

(b) Directional Devices: Directional devices if installed as follows:

- (1) Use: Directional devices shall be used to indicate points of entry or exit for a business, public amenity, or off-street parking area.
- (2) Area: Directional devices are limited to a maximum of four (4) square feet in area per entrance.
- (3) Height: Directional devices are limited to a maximum of forty-two (42) inches in height above the ground.
- (4) Placement:
 - a. Directional devices shall not interfere with safe vehicular or pedestrian traffic circulations.
 - b. Directional devices shall not obstruct the view of drivers entering or exiting the lot or parcel.
 - c. Directional devices shall not be placed within a public right-of-way.
 - d. Directional devices shall be on the property to which it refers.
- (5) Quantity: No more than two (2) directional devices shall be used per street frontage, with a maximum of four (4) per lot or parcel.
- (6) Message: Directional devices without a logo may contain information such as "in", "enter", "entrance", "out", "exit", "do not enter" or directional arrows indicating desired traffic movement.

(c) Flags: The flag, pennant, or insignia of any nation, state, city or other political unit are exempt, but shall not be mounted more than thirty-five

(35) feet in height and be more than forty (40) square feet in area (e.g. a five (5) foot by eight (8) foot flag).

- (d) **Holiday Decorations:** Holiday decorations are exempt and may include window painting, trees, wreaths, decorative lighting, and similar seasonal displays that do not contain the name or logo of an establishment or any type of advertising.
- (e) **Murals:** Murals are exempt provided that the mural does not contain the name or logo of an establishment or any type of advertising. Murals with non-commercial messages require approval by the legislative body before being installed.
- (f) **Scoreboards:** Scoreboards are exempt from needing a permit as follows:
 - (1) when used in conjunction with a legally established sport field, and (2) when not containing any commercial messages, and (3) when the scoreboard does not exceed twenty (20) feet in height above the ground, and (4) when the total scoreboard area does not exceed one hundred (100) square feet, and (5) when the scoreboards are single sided.
- (g) **Wayfinding Structures:** Wayfinding structures if erected by the municipality.
- (h) **Temporary Marker Signs:** Temporary marker signs shall only be permitted on a lot having 300 feet or more of street frontage, provided the following conditions are met.
 - (1) **Type:** Temporary marker signs shall be yard signs (An example of a temporary marker sign are seed signs)
 - (2) **Quantity:** Up to 30 temporary marker signs shall be permitted per lot.
 - (3) Each sign area shall not exceed six (6) square feet.
 - (4) No part of the sign shall be higher than four (4) feet above the ground
 - (5) A temporary marker sign may stay in place for the duration of the temporary event (e.g. planting through harvest), but shall be taken down within seven (7) days after the purpose of the sign no longer exists.
- (i) **Operational or Information signs:** Posting of operational and information provided the sign is no larger than necessary for the intended reader. (Examples include hours of operation, admittance requirements, "Employees Only", "Men", "Women", "Visitor Parking" and "Open/Closed".)
- (j) **Temporary Signs:** Temporary signs shall be exempt from obtaining an Improvement Location Permit but shall comply with all applicable standards (Examples are sale of property, garage sale, special sale, grand opening and supporting a sport team. The following standards shall be met:
 - (1) Temporary signs shall not be illuminated
 - (2) Shall be a sandwich board, self-standing signs, yard signs, banner or a window sign

- (3) Quantity allowed as indicated in appropriate table.
 - (4) Maximum height as indicated in appropriate table.
 - (5) The clear-sight triangle shall be maintained at all intersections, driveways, alleys and railroad crossings as defined in Article XIII.
 - (6) Setback from any right-of-way, edge of pavement, and curb associated with any driveway or street as indicated in appropriate table.
 - (7) A standard temporary sign may stay in place for the duration of the temporary event. The temporary sign may be placed up to seven (7) days prior to the temporary event. All temporary signs shall be taken down within five (5) days after the temporary sign's purpose no longer exists.
- (k) Signs erected by farm operators on their barns or other accessory buildings giving their name, the name of the farm and the year the farm was established are exempted. Also "barn quilts" are exempted on agriculture buildings.
- e. Sign Permits. A sign permit is required for all permanent signs located, erected, constructed, reconstructed, moved, and altered unless otherwise stated in the in this section.
 - f. Installation. The ground shall not be raised or lowered to artificially change the point at which a sign height is measured.
 - g. Location and Placement.
 - i. Signs may not be installed at any of the following locations:
 - (a) In any public right-of-way, unless specifically authorized by the legislative body or their designee;
 - (b) In any utility easement unless authorized by the legislative body or their designee;
 - (c) In any no-build or no-disturb zone;
 - (d) In any public park or other public property, with the exception of those signs specifically permitted in this ordinance;
 - (e) On any traffic control signs, highway construction signs, fences, utility poles, street signs, trees, or other natural objects;
 - (f) Obstructing any door, fire escape, stairway, or any opening intended to provide entrance or exit for any building or structure; or
 - (g) In a manner that obstructs or interferes with safe movement of vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
 - h. Computations.
 - i. Area.

- (a) Individual Sign. The area of a sign face (which is also the sign area of a wall sign or other sign with only one (1) face) shall be computed by means of the smallest rectangle that will encompass the extreme limits of the sign, but not including any supporting framework, bracing, or decorative fence or wall when such fence or wall otherwise meets the regulations and is clearly incidental to the display itself.
 - (b) Multifaceted Sign. For purposes of calculating the permitted sign area, the average of the individual sign areas shall be used. *(For example, the average area of a two-faced sign with a cumulative total of 400sqft shall be 200sqft).* For purposes of calculating the permit fee for a multifaceted sign, the total cumulative area of the individual sign areas shall be used. *(For example, the permit fee of a two-faced sign with a cumulative total of 400sqft shall be based on 400sqft).*
- ii. Height.
 - (a) The height of a sign shall be computed as the distance from the base of the sign at normal grade to the top of the highest attached component of the sign or structure supporting the sign.
 - (b) Normal grade shall be construed to be the lower of (1) existing grade prior to construction or (2) the newly established grade after construction, exclusive of any filling, berming, mounding, or excavating solely for the purpose of locating the sign. In cases in which the normal grade cannot reasonably be determined, sign height shall be computed on the assumption that the elevation of the normal grade at the base of the sign is equal to the elevation of the nearest point of the crown of a public street or the grade of the land at the principal entrance to the principal structure on the zone lot or parcel, whichever is lower.
- iii. Maximum Total Permitted Sign Area for a Lot or Parcel. The permitted sum of the area of all individual signs on a lot or parcel shall be computed by applying the regulations for the road frontage, building frontage, or wall area for each respective sign and zoning district in which the lot or parcel is located.
- i. Maintenance. All signs and components thereof shall be kept in good repair and in safe, neat, clean, and working condition.
- j. Abandoned Signs and Uses. All signs, their mounting, and related components shall be removed within thirty (30) days of the day the business which it identifies is no longer conducted. When a permanent, multi-tenant sign exists that allows a "face-out/face-in" change to identify a new business, said sign may be left in place, but must be covered with a durable and attractive material. Under no circumstances shall any permanent sign be left in place for more than three (3) months. The owner of the premise upon which the sign is located is responsible for its removal or covering.
- k. Legally non-conforming Signs. The sign which complied with the Unified Zoning Ordinance as of the date it was erected and is allowed to remain, but cannot be expanded and only replaced in like kind of area and height. If a sign is made less non-conforming then that becomes the new replacement standard for that sign as opposed to the original sign area and height.

I. Violations and Penalties.

- i. Failure to Comply. Failure to comply with the provisions of this ordinance will result in notices, enforcement, and applicable penalties.
- ii. Repeat Violation: A repeat violation means a violation of a specific provision of this section by a person or property owner who has been previously found to have violated the same provision within a period of five (5) years prior to a subsequent violation. If a repeat violation is found, the Administrator shall document the violation, but is not required to notify the violator of the repeat violation or required to give the violator time to correct the violation before proceeding with enforcement measures and penalties.

m. Table Interpretation

- i. Total Permanent Signs: This is the cumulative total number of permanent signs that are permitted on the subject lot or parcel. Furthermore, the quantity of sign by type may be limited by the respective standards for the subject district.
- ii. Total Temporary Signs: This is the cumulative total number of temporary signs that are permitted on the subject lot or parcel. Furthermore, the quantity of signs by type may be limited by the respective standards for the subject district.
- iii. Maximum Cumulative Area: This is the maximum cumulative area of permanent signs that are permitted on the subject lot or parcel, measured in square feet.
- iv. Permitted Signs: These are the types of permanent and temporary signs that are permitted on the subject lot or parcel.
- v. Prohibited Signs: These are the types of signs that are prohibited on the subject lot or parcel.

2. Agricultural Sign Standards for Districts: AG-L, AG-I

Permitted and Prohibited Sign Types			
	Type	Total Quantity of Signs Permitted	Maximum Cumulative Area
Permitted Permanent Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wall sign • free-standing sign 	NA	36 sqft (Temporary + permanent)
Permitted Temporary Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wall sign • free-standing sign 	NA	36 sqft (Temporary + permanent)
Prohibited Signs	all other signs not permitted	NA	NA
Regulations for Permanent Signs			
	Wall Signs	Free-standing Signs	
Maximum Area Per Sign	18 sqft	18 sqft	
Maximum Height*	25 feet above curb level	15 feet	
Setback	NA	20 feet	
Other Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located only on the same lot or parcel as the use/business • No sign shall project beyond the property line into the public right-of-way 		
<i>*Visibility triangle: where applicable, where applicable, the maximum height of a free-standing sign shall be nine (9) feet if located within three (3) feet of a driveway, three (3) feet of a parking area, or within fifty (50) feet of the intersection of two (2) or more streets. Height is measured at the mean elevation of the finished grade of the adjoining ground or pavement.</i>			
Regulations for Temporary Signs			
	Wall Signs	Free-Standing Signs	
Maximum Area Per Sign	18 sqft	18 sqft	
Maximum Height*	25' Above curb level	6 feet	
Setback	NA	8 feet	
Other Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located only on the same lot or parcel as the use/business • No sign shall project beyond the property line into the public right-of-way 		
<i>*Visibility triangle: where applicable, where applicable, the maximum height of a free-standing sign shall be nine (9) feet if located within three (3) feet of a driveway, three (3) feet of a parking area, or within fifty (50) feet of the intersection of two (2) or more streets. Height is measured at the mean elevation of the finished grade of the adjoining ground or pavement.</i>			

Residential Sign Standards for Districts: A-R, R-1, R-2, R-3

Permitted and Prohibited Sign Types			
	Type	Total Quantity of Signs Permitted	Maximum Cumulative Area
Permitted Permanent Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wall sign • free-standing sign 	NA	36 sqft (Temporary + permanent)
Permitted Temporary Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wall sign • free-standing sign 	NA	36 sqft (Temporary + permanent)
Prohibited Signs	all other signs not permitted	NA	NA
Regulations for Permanent Signs			
	Wall Signs	Free-Standing Signs	
Maximum Area Per Sign	18 sqft	18 sqft	
Maximum Height*	15 feet above curb level	6 feet	
Setback	NA	8 feet	
Other Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located only on the same lot or parcel as the use/business • No sign shall project beyond the property line into the public right-of-way 		
<i>*Visibility triangle: where applicable, the maximum height of a free-standing sign shall be nine (9) feet if located within three (3) feet of a driveway, three (3) feet of a parking area, or within fifty (50) feet of the intersection of two (2) or more streets. Height is measured at the mean elevation of the finished grade of the adjoining ground or pavement.</i>			
Regulations for Temporary Signs			
	Wall Signs	Free-standing Signs	
Maximum Area Per Sign	18 sqft	18 sqft	
Maximum Height*	15 feet above curb level	6 feet	
Setback	NA	8 feet	
Other Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located only on the same lot or parcel as the use/business • No sign shall project beyond the property line into the public right-of-way 		
<i>*Visibility triangle: where applicable, the maximum height of a free-standing sign shall be nine (9) feet if located within three (3) feet of a driveway, three (3) feet of a parking area, or within fifty (50) feet of the intersection of two (2) or more streets. Height is measured at the mean elevation of the finished grade of the adjoining ground or pavement.</i>			

Table 4. Commercial and Industrial Sign Standards for Districts: C-1, C-2, C-3, M-1 and M-2 uses (other than Residential uses covered in Table 3)

Permitted and Prohibited Sign Types			
	Type	Total Quantity of Signs Permitted	Maximum Cumulative Area
Permitted Permanent Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> wall sign free-standing sign 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 wall signs 1 free-standing sign 	Per regulations by sign type in Tables below.
Permitted Temporary Signs	free-standing sign	1per lot or business facade	per regulations by sign type in tables below
Prohibited Signs (see d.iii)	all other signs not permitted	NA	NA
Regulations for Permanent Signs			
	Wall Signs¹	Free-standing Signs^{1, 2}	
Maximum Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single-family or Two-family Residential Use: Table 3 Multi-family Residential Use: Table 3 Non-residential Use: 1 per primary structure or 1 per occupancy (separate façade) Corner lot or parcel: 1 per street frontage, maximum 2 Through lot: 1 + 1 additional per RF over 150'; maximum 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single-family or Two-family Residential Use: Table 3 Multi-family Residential Use: Table 3 Non-residential Use: 1 sign Corner lot or parcel: 1 sign Through lot: 1 + 1 additional per RF over 150'; maximum 2; minimum separation of sign 1 from sign 2 is 250' 	
Maximum Area (sf) (additive total per RF)	LF x 1.6 Minimum 30sf; maximum 200sf	LF x 1.6 30sf minimum; 100sf maximum Through lot: max. area of sign1=max. area of sign2;	
Maximum Height	25 feet above curb level	25 feet	
Setback	NA	5 feet	
Other Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sign illumination – see subsection N of this Section Located only on the same or contiguous lot or parcel as the use/business No sign shall project beyond the property line into the public right-of-way 		
Regulations for Temporary Signs			
	Free-standing Signs		
Maximum Quantity	1 per lot or parcel or business		
Maximum Area	15sf		
Maximum Height	10 feet		
Setback	5 feet		
Other Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located only on the same or contiguous lot or parcel as the use/business No sign shall project beyond the property line into the public right-of-way Signs may only be displayed during hours of operation 		
Abbreviations: RF= road frontage; LF= length of façade; SF= square feet			
¹Changeable Copy:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> part of wall or ground sign no more than 80% of area of sign electronic script allowed but static message is limited to no less than 10 seconds with no blending of messages. Message shall transition instantly (Animation shall not be allowed). 			
²Permitted sign area calculated on a lot without a building (façade) shall be a maximum of 30sf			

N. Sign Illumination: The lighting restriction to and the night-time illumination of lighted signs and Electronic Messaging Centers (EMCs) shall conform with criteria set forth in this Subsection

- i. Signs may have constant internal or external illumination.
 - (a) External illumination shall be shielded from residences and the street.
 - (b) The Area Planning Department, upon receiving valid complaints from an adjoining land owner or individual driving near a permitted illuminated sign shall investigate and inform the owner or operator of said sign that the sign brightness (internal or external) shall be reduced during hours of low ambient light (dusk to dawn). Sign Illumination shall at no time exceed the standards set forth below but may be required to be reduced below such standards in specific situations as determined by the Administrator.
- ii. Shall be located on the same or contiguous lot as the use/business
- iii. Sign illumination Measurement: The illuminance of a sign shall be measured with an illuminance meter set to measure footcandles accurate to at least two decimals. Illuminance shall be measured with the light off, and again with the light on (displaying a white image on an EMC or a solid message for a single-color EMC) at a vertical height of approximately 5' from grade. All measurements shall be taken as close to **perpendicular** to the sign face as possible and at a distance indicated by total square footage of the lit portion of the sign indicated in **Table 1**.
- iv. Illumination Limits: The difference between the light off and light on measurements, using the criteria in Table 1, shall not exceed 0.3 footcandles at night. In or adjacent to residential the difference shall not exceed 0.2 footcandles at night.
- v. All permitted EMCs shall be equipped with a sensor or other device that automatically determines the ambient illumination and programmed to automatically dim according to ambient light conditions, or that can be adjusted to comply with the 0.3 footcandle measurements.
- vi. Existing signs shall meet the illuminance requirements set forth in this subsection excepting i(c) above.
- vii. Illumination of signs shall be static in color and intensity.
- viii. daytime internal illumination shall be no more than 5,000 nits (approximate sunlight illumination of a non-digital sign).

Table 1. Sign Area Verses Measurement Distance

Area of Sign in Square Feet	Measurement Distance from Sign Face
10	32
15	39
20	45
25	50
30	55
35	59
40	63
45	67
50	71
55	74
60	77
65	81
70	84
75	87
80	89
85	92
90	95
95	97
100	100
110	105
120	110
130	114
140	118
150	122
160	126
170	130
180	134
190	138
200	141
220	148
240	155
260	161
280	167
300	173

**For signs with an area in square feet other than those listed in the table the measurement distance may be calculated with the following formulas: Measurement Distance = $\sqrt{\text{Area of Sign Sq. Ft.} \times 100}$*

6. Definitions

a. General.

- i. Terms. The terms and words defined in this Section shall have the meanings herein ascribed to them.
- ii. Undefined Terms. Any words not defined in this Section shall be construed as defined in the current Zoning Ordinance. If not defined in the current Zoning Ordinance, then the definition shall be as established for normal dictionary usage.
- iii. Tense and Form. Words used or defined in one tense or form shall include other tenses and derivative forms.
- iv. Number. Words in the singular number shall include the plural number, and words in the plural number shall include the singular number.
- v. Gender. The masculine gender shall include the feminine and neuter. The feminine gender shall include the masculine and neuter. The neuter gender shall include the masculine and feminine.
- vi. Person. The word "person" includes individuals, firms, partnerships, joint ventures, trusts, trustees, estates, corporations, associations, and any other similar entities.
- vii. Captions, Illustrations, and Tables. In case of any difference of meaning or implication between the text of this ordinance and any caption, illustration, or table, the text shall control and no caption, illustration, or table shall be construed to limit the scope or intent of the text of this ordinance.

ADMINISTRATOR

The APC or a person designated by the APC to provide staff support to the APC and BZA and to enforce this ordinance under the supervision of the APC.

INTERNAL ILLUMINATION

A means of sign illumination in which the characters, letters, fixtures, designs or outlines are illuminated from the inside or behind the sign by electric lights or tubes.

LOT

A designated parcel of land established by plat, subdivision, or as otherwise permitted by law, to be separately owned, used, developed, or built upon.

PARCEL

Any area of land formally described and recorded with block and lot numbers, by metes and bounds, by ownership, or in any other such a manner as to specifically identify the dimensions and/or boundaries.

SIGN

Any name, number, symbol, identification, description, display, graphic, or illustration which is affixed to, painted on, or is represented directly or indirectly upon a structure or lot/parcel, visible from any public right-of-way which directs attention to an object, product, place, activity, person, institution, organization, or business. Religious symbols on places of worship or structures owned and operated by religious organizations shall not be considered a sign unless accompanied with text. This definition includes backlit plastic panels or strip lighting affixed to any wall or roof where any such panels or lighting serve to identify a business and attract attention rather than to illuminate space for human activity. For purposes of this ordinance, the following signs are defined:

- **Animated Sign** – Any sign that uses movement or change of artificial and natural lighting or noise to depict action or create a special effect or scene. This includes any directly or indirectly illuminated sign that exhibits changing natural or artificial light or color effects by any means whatsoever. Different from an “electronic sign”, an animated sign produces the illusion of movement by means of electronic, electrical, or electro-mechanical input and/or illumination capable of simulating movement through using the characteristics of one (1) or both of the following classifications:
 - flashing, animated, or animated portions of a sign where the cyclical period between on-off phases of illumination is less than four (4) seconds; and/or
 - patterned illusionary movement in which animated signs or portions of signs whose illumination is characterized by simulated movement.
 - Scrolling signs of 10 square feet or less are not considered Animated Signs.
- **Awning** - A sign that is attached to an awning, canopy, or other fabric that serves as a structural protective cover over a door, entrance, window, or outdoor service area.
- **Banner** - A non-rigid cloth, plastic, paper, flag, or canvas sign typically related to a special event or promotion that is cultural, educational, charitable, or recreational in its function, under the sponsorship of a for-profit establishment or business, or a public, private non-profit, or religious organization. Banners also include streamers or ribbon-shaped or cord-like rope which may have pennants and/or banners attached and which is stretched or hung between two (2) or more points of support intended to attract attention.
- **Bench Sign** - Any sign painted on, located on, or attached to any part of the surface of a bench, seat, or chair placed on or adjacent to a public street.
- **Billboard** - A sign, at least 300 square feet in area, that directs attention to a business, commodity, service, or entertainment conducted, sold, or offered at a location other than the premises on which the sign is located.
- **Changeable Copy** - A sign or portion thereof with characters, letters, or illustrations that can be changed or rearranged by mechanical, electronic or manual means without altering the face or surface of the sign.

- Electronic - A sign activated by or illuminated by means of electrical energy whose variable message capability can be electronically programmed.
- Free-standing – A sign that is detached from a building and having a support structure.
- Hanging Sign - A sign that is suspended from the underside of a horizontal plane surface and is supported by such surface.
- Inflatable - Any device which is capable of being expanded by any gas and used on a permanent or temporary basis to attract attention to a product or event. This definition includes both hot and cold-air balloons tethered or otherwise anchored to the ground.
- Informational - Any on-premise sign which contains no commercial message of any sort and which provides, for example, directions for control of traffic , enter/exit, hours of operation, no smoking, beware of dog, no trespassing, security system present, or other necessary regulatory information. Informational signs shall not contain the name or logo of an establishment or any type of advertising for products or services offered on site.
- Marker - A sign that:
 - indicates the name of a structure, date, or other incidental information about its construction that is cut into a masonry surface, cast in bronze, or made of other material; or
 - identifies a product in agricultural areas, typically used to identify seed types used in agricultural fields.
- Monument - A type of free-standing sign in which the bottom edge of the sign face is permanently affixed to the ground.
- Pole Sign – A type of free-standing sign that is supported by structures or supports that are placed on and anchored in the ground and that are independent from any structure. A pole sign uses said structures to raise the sign face above the ground more than four (4) inches.
- Portable Sign - Any sign not permanently attached to the ground, structure, or other permanent element. This includes signs that are designed to be:
 - moved/transported by means of wheels or other mechanisms;
 - trailer signs that are attached to, supported by, or part of a structure which is designed to move on trailer wheels, skids, or other similar devices, or transported, pushed, or pulled by a motor vehicle;
 - converted to A-frames or T-frames such as menu or sandwich board signs;
 - balloons used as signs;
 - umbrellas used for advertising; and/or other portable devices or structures used for signage.
- Projecting Sign - A sign that is wholly or partly dependent upon a structure for support or suspended from a pole attached to a structure. Such signs must be perpendicular to the structure face upon which they are attached.

- Roof Sign - Any sign partially or fully erected on or above the roof line of a structure.
- Scrolling Sign – A sign which displays text that moves horizontally on a display screen with new text appearing at the same rate that old text disappears. (Permitted area of display is 10 square feet or less).
- Trailblazer Sign - A series of signs directing the motoring public to a specific location on private property.
- Unified Development Sign - A sign that representing a shopping center, office park, industrial park, or other development that contains three (3) or more uses within a single development. A unified development sign is allowed in addition to the permitted signs of the individual tenants.
- Vehicle Sign - A sign that is permanently affixed to the body of, an integral part of, or a fixture of a motor vehicle that is parked or left standing so that it is visible from a public street for a period of more than seventy-two (72) continuous hours for the intent of being used as advertisement. For the purpose of this definition, "permanently affixed" shall mean any of the following:
 - painted directly on the body of a vehicle; applied as a decal on the body of a vehicle; and/or
 - placed in a location on the body of the vehicle that was specifically designed by a vehicle manufacturer.
- Wall Sign - Any sign attached to or erected against the inside or outside wall of a structure with the exposed display surface of the sign in a plane parallel (or relatively parallel) to the plane of the structure.
- Wayfinding Sign - A sign erected by the municipality or a multi-tenant development that displays necessary identification information for the convenience and safety of residents and visitors, and containing no advertising. This includes government-erected signs found along major streets that display company logos for lodging, gasoline stations, restaurants, and other such establishments. Also includes directional signs that provide information regarding location, instructions for use, or functional/directional information.
- Window Sign - Any sign, poster, symbol, or other type of identification or information about the use or premises directly attached to the window of a structure or erected on the inside or outside of the window, which is legible from any part of a public right-of-way or adjacent property. For purposes of this definition, a "window" is defined as an opening in the wall or roof of a structure or vehicle that is fitted with glass or other transparent material in a frame to admit light or air and allow people to see out.

SIGN AREA

The entire face of a sign, including the advertising surface and any framing, trim, or molding, but not including the supporting structure.

SIGN FACE

The surface intended for the display of information on the sign.

SIGN HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND	The vertical measurement from the ground to the top of the sign. The height of all signs shall be measured from the established grade line to the highest point of the sign or its frame/support.
SIGN STRUCTURE	The supporting unit of a sign face, including but not limited to frames, braces cabinets, and poles.
SIGN, ABANDONED	A sign that is: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) associated with an abandoned use; and/or 2) remains after the termination of the business; and/or 3) on its immediate premises but not adequately maintained or repaired.
SIGN, ILLUMINATED	Any sign lighted by or exposed to artificial lighting either by light on or in the sign or directed toward the sign.
SIGN, LEGAL NON-CONFORMING	A pre-existing, legally permitted sign, or portion thereof, which was designed, erected, or structurally altered such that it does not conform to the regulations of the zoning district in which it is located.
SIGN, PERMANENT	A sign attached to a permanent structure, foundation, or mounted in the ground in a manner that enables the sign to resist environmental loads, such as wind, and precludes ready removal or movement of the sign. The use of anchor bolts, ropes, stakes, chains, glue, or similar anchoring are not methods recognized by this ordinance as a permanent foundation.
SIGN, TEMPORARY	Any sign that is temporarily used for a specific duration of time and is not affixed to a permanent foundation or structure.
USE, PRIMARY	The predominant use of any lot or parcel or as determined by the primary structure. In the absence of a primary structure, the primary activity occurring on the property is the primary use.

*Includes:
Amendment 2022-1-A February 23, 2022
Amendment 2022-2-A May 18, 2022*